

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday December 5th 1999

Millennium Club Prize

Clubs wishing to enter the £1000 Y2K prize are reminded that they have to register in advance. The form can be downloaded from www.irts.ie/clubreg.htm

It is also available from the secretary EI7IQ at QTHR.

The closing date is December the 31st and the award will run for the year 2000 with the prize being presented at the IRTS 2001 AGM.

South Dublin Radio Club

On Tuesday November the 22nd, Declan Craig EI6FR made a presentation to members of South Dublin Radio Club on his participation in the DXpedition to Campbell Island earlier this year.

This DXpedition to the South Pacific was a tremendous success, achieving the highest ever QSO total for a DXpedition. Declan was one of the CW operators on the team and was also responsible for the aerial systems.

At the SDR meeting, Declan gave a very interesting and entertaining account of the whole project and based on his experience at the receiving end of numerous pile-ups, was able to offer many suggestions for breaking through the pile-ups, even when running low power.

South Dublin Radio Club is delighted to announce that Peter Henshaw, formerly with the SWL call EI 1362, is now licensed as EI7FDB. Peter has been one of the most active members of the club in the past few years and participated in last year's radio theory class. He successfully sat the theory exam in November and was given the call EI seven fox delta bravo. He is now working to improve his Morse code.

Some DX News

Thanks to the OPDX Bulletin for the following information.

Look out for 3W6KM from Vietnam starting this weekend and running to January 4th. They will be active on all bands and modes. They will move to Cambodia on January 5th and will be there until February the 4th. The callsigns are not known. QSL to ES1AKM PO Box 2907, Tallinn 13102 Estonia or via the ES bureau.

The VK3RMH 10 metre beacon is now active 24 hours a day on 28.2565MHz and it is located 25km Northeast of Melbourne. The CW ID cycles through two messages, each followed by a 20 watt carrier and a 5 watt carrier for 5 seconds each.

The first major DXpedition of the new year has been announced by the Central Arizona DX Association. This will be a trip to Thatay Khun Island off the southernmost tip of the Union of Myanmar in Zone 26, Southeast Asia.

The callsign will be XZ0A and they will be active from January the 13th until February the 6th. Twenty four operators from seven countries will operate eight stations with amplifiers and full size aerials on all bands. More details nearer the date.

Mayo Dinner & Christmas Party

The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network's first annual dinner & Christmas party will be held on Saturday December 18th in the Clew Bay Hotel in Westport. Tickets costing £20 each are available from Padraic Baynes EI6FWB, telephone 098 27616 or Dermot Adams EI7IX on 098 25479 or on e-mail at ei7ix@eircom.net A special rate for dinner and B&B in the Hotel is available at £32.50 per person. The guests of honour at the dinner are Paul O'Kane EI5DI President of the IRTS and his wife Pat.

Tir Conall Radio Society Christmas Dinner The Tir Chonall Radio Society is having it's Christmas dinner in Jacksons Hotel Ballybofey on Saturday 11th of December at 8.30pm.

Tickets, costing £20 each, are available from Ken EI4DW at QTHR or on the telephone at 074-31109.

Space News

The American Hubble Space Telescope is temporarily closed down following an equipment failure. The system broke down when the fourth of six gyroscopes stopped working. Three gyroscopes are needed to keep the telescope locked on its targets.

Space walking astronauts to be carried aboard space shuttle Discovery are scheduled to replace key components of the 3 billion dollar pointing system following a

December launch.

However, Discovery's launch could be delayed due to damaged electrical wires and a leaky seal on one of the three auxiliary power units that steer the main engines during ascent and also control wing flaps and landing gear.

A final launch date has yet to be announced.

Dates for your Diary

The ARRL 10 metre contest will be held next weekend, December 11th and 12th.

The Tipperary club's annual dinner will be held this year on Saturday next December the 11th at the Galtee Inn in Cahir and tickets are available from any committee member.

The Limerick Radio Club will hold their annual rally on Sunday the 26th of March 2000 in the Limerick Inn Hotel The IRTS AGM will be held in The Four Seasons Hotel on Monaghan over the weekend of April the 8th and 9th next year.

Items for inclusion in the Radio News should be phoned to Dave Moore at 021-883555 in the evenings or to 021 823172 during office hours. You may also e-mail to

ei4bz@irts.ie or to ei8ir@eircom.net Input for the Newsletter should be sent to Kevin EI7IM at QTHR, on the phone at 01-4509514 or by e-mail to ei7im@qsl.net.

Input to either the Radio News or Newsletter can be sent by e-mail to news@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both news services.

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